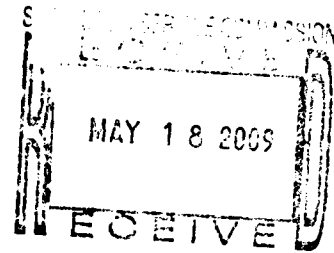


NDI
2009-2.C

216768

Friday, May 15, 2009
45 Blue Creek Road
Heron, Montana 59844-9509

Public Service Commission of South Carolina
Telecommunications Division
101 Executive Center Drive, Suite 100
Columbia, South Carolina 29210



Dear Sirs:

I believe the sale of Verizon's rural lines to Frontier Communications will bring benefits to the telecommunications users in South Carolina.

Since Verizon wants to sell its South Carolina lines that means Verizon is no longer interested in being focused on the residents and businesses in the state. It is no secret Verizon wants to zero in on its properties in the densely populated northeastern United States. Verizon is very interested in investing in its northeastern network and infrastructure, while not being so diligent to do likewise in its rural South Carolina facilities. That will leave South Carolina at a huge disadvantage when it comes to upgrades in its telecommunications business which is the lifeblood to the state's people, schools, hospitals, public service providers, emergency service providers, etc., etc. Why should South Carolina be left behind?

Frontier Communications, on the other hand, wants to do business in the state. It wants to focus on maintaining and upgrading facilities in South Carolina. That will bring enhancements to the quality of life for many in rural South Carolina. Frontier is not only in the business of telecommunications, it is well established and experienced, and it has the "know how" to provide quality services at fair prices to rural areas.

In addition, Verizon's employees, who know the intricacies of each local area (the central offices, the wires, the communities, the local people), will transfer to Frontier and will bring that valuable knowledge with them. They are already in those communities and they understand what is needed to keep those communities updated and operating smoothly. Labor unions, who are supposed to look after the interests of their members, may try to stand in the way of the Frontier deal because they may believe their members will be better off staying with Verizon rather than going to Frontier. Unions have a track record of doing that in the transfer to FairPoint the Verizon properties in rural northern New England. However, in this present deal with Frontier expressing sincere interest in maintaining and upgrading the rural South Carolina networks there would simply be more job security with a company wanting to invest in South Carolina rather than one wanting to concentrate its energies in other geographical regions that do not include South Carolina.

For the reasons stated above I think it is in the best interest of South Carolina to allow the transfer to Frontier of Verizon's rural landline facilities. It is an opportunity that should be taken advantage of simply because it is a major move forward for rural South Carolina. Rather than be left behind with Verizon, rural South Carolina will be able to move forward with Frontier's desire to upgrade and employ the latest break throughs technology has to offer.

Sincerely,

Edward J. Solce, Jr.